

Sinclair
Broadcasting's
decision to force
their stations to
air an obviously
anti-Kerry
documentary only a
few weeks before the
election is a clear
example of the
growing dangers to
the public trust
flowing from media
consolidation, or
deregulation.

Sinclair uses the
public airwaves free
of charge, and is
obligated by law to
serve the public
interest. But when
large companies
control the
airwaves, those
companies only
operate to improve
their bottom line,
not promote
democracy. Rather,
these actions insult
and threaten our
form of democracy.
Instead of something
produced at "News
Central" far away,
it's more important
that we see real
people from our own
communities and more
substantive news
about issues that
matter.

Sinclair's actions
show why we need to
strengthen media
ownership rules, not
weaken them. These
actions illustrate
the importance of
diversity of
ownership and voice
in the public
airwaves. These
actions show why the
license renewal

process needs to
involve more than a
returned postcard.
It is the FCC's
responsibility to
enforce the law and
ensure that these
companies operate
within their
responsibilities to
the law and the
American people.
Thank you.